

Abstract of the Disclosure

An eviscerated poultry carcass is subjected to inside-outside washing (IOBW) with a microbiocidal composition which is (a) water having a microbiocidally-effective bromine residual derived from an N,N'-bromochloro-5,5-dialkylhydantoin; or (b) water having a microbiocidally-effective bromine residual derived from alkali or alkaline earth metal bromide and alkali metal or alkaline earth metal hypohalite; or (c) water having a microbiocidally-effective bromine residual derived from a halogen stabilizer, a bromine source, and an alkali metal base or alkaline earth metal base; or (d) a mixture of at least two of (a), (b), and (c). Preferably before the IOBW, the unopened defeathered carcass is washed with such microbiocidal composition. In a preferred multi-staged operation, the microbiocidal composition is applied to the unopened defeathered carcass, to the eviscerated carcass during IOBW, to the eviscerated carcass in the chill tank, and optionally but preferably, to the carcass after removal from the chill tank and before packaging for storage or shipment.